**Potassium**

**Atomic Number: 19 Atomic Symbols: K**

**Atomic Weight: 39.098 Electron Configurations: 2-8-8-1**

**Shells: 2,8,8,1 Filling Orbital: 4s1**

**Melting Point: 63.65oC Boiling Point: 774oC**

**Uses: Fertilizers, glass, soap and explosives**

**Discovered in 1807 by Sir Humphrey Davy, who obtained it from caustic potash (KOH); this was the first metal isolated by electrolysis.**

**Potassium is a metal and is the seventh most abundant and makes up about 1.5 % by weight of the earth's crust.**

**Potassium is an essential constituent for plant growth and it is found in most soils. It is also a vital element in the human diet**